

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the May 16, 2007 Office Action, and the amendments above together with the comments that follow are presented in a bona fide effort to address all issues raised in that Action and thereby place this case in condition for allowance. Claims 1-5 and 24-33 were pending in this application. In response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2007, claim 1 has been canceled and claims 2-5 and 24-33 have been amended. New independent claim 34 has been added. Adequate descriptive support for the present Amendment should be apparent throughout the originally filed disclosure as, for example, the depicted embodiments and related discussion thereof in the written description of the specification. Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue. Entry of the present Amendment is respectfully solicited. It is believed that this response places this case in condition for allowance. Hence, prompt favorable reconsideration of this case is solicited.

Claims 1-5, 24 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daneshvar et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,185,351, hereinafter “Daneshvar”). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner’s indication of allowable subject matter. Dependent claims 26-33 were indicated as allowable if recast in independent form. Applicants have rewritten claim 26 in independent form to include the limitations of cancelled independent claim 1. The dependencies of claims 2-5 and 24-25 have been amended to depend from independent claim 26. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is moot.

New independent claim 34 and dependent claims 27-33 are patentably distinct over the art of record for the following reasons. Independent claim 34 recites, in pertinent part, and optical cable wherein each of the coated optical fibers comprises a core region made of pure silica glass,

and a cladding region made of F-doped silica glass. It is respectfully submitted that Daneshvar fails to disclose or reasonably suggest this claim feature, as recognized by the Examiner at page 8 of the office action.

Applicants note the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included on page 8 of the Office action. Entry of that Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the reasoning stated by the Examiner. *Salazar v. Procter & Gamble Co.*, 414 F.3d 1342 (Fed. Cir. 2005). The Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be used to interpret the cited claims, particularly to the extent if any that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance may differ from the express language of the claims and/or Applicants' positions on patentability of those claims. It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled the broadest reasonable interpretation and broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims, the supporting disclosure and Applicants' prosecution of the claims, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

It is believed that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request an early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application. If there are any outstanding issues which might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' representative at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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